

Practices That Work!

Reason for starting the innovative practice

The LGUs comprising SOCSKARGEN share common economic aspirations and plans. But to sustain economic growth and development, they need to work together to preserve and rehabilitate their environment. The environmental program of the SOCSKARGEN aims to accomplish the following: help LGUs within SOCSKARGEN implement their priority environmental projects; respond to citizen demand; expand services delivery; and more effectively address local environmental problems

Role of Implementing Organization

SOCSKARGEN has an Area Development Project Office providing secretariat services to four LGUs namely, South Cotabato, Sarangani, General Santos and Sultan Kudarat. The respective Lgus have created their own technical working groups. NGO members of the SOCSKARGEN Board help provide technical assistance and information needed for decision making.

How it works

Member LGUs of SOCSKARGEN submit their request for Technical Assistance to the ADPO which, in turn, either directly delivers the requested Technical Assistance or negotiates with other service providers and/or LGU sharers. Also provides funds from its own agency budget and from local business community as counterpart to funds of requesting LGUs to help co-finance environmental activities, e.g. workshops, conferences, training, seminars. ADPO is also developing its environmental website and database.

The SOCSKARGEN Board and ADPO in addition to causing the delivery of direct technical assistance to LGU, sponsors annual Environmental Summits. The Summits serves as venue for sharing of good and promising environmental management practices.

How barriers/obstacles were overcome

As in other undertakings the SOCSKARGEN Environmental Management Initiatives often encounter resource constraints. The local business community in General Santos City covers financial shortfalls, e.g. for the two previous annual environmental summits.

Details of benefits and results

- increased number of LGUs and business organizations private organizations doing environmental management in Soccskargen area
- increased citizen participation in local environmental management

General Information

Innovative Practice Name

Advocacy for localized environmental conservation

Location

General Santos City, South Cotabato, Sarangani, and Sultan Kudarat

Date Started

March 2000

Date Completed

September 2000

Estimated Cost:

P 500, 000.00

Implementing Office Address

Soccskargen Area Development Project Office (ADPO), General Santos City

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